

California Fair Political Practices Commission

October 6, 1989

Barbara Milman Staff Counsel Assembly Rules Committee Senator Hotel 1121 L Street, Rm. 400 Sacramento, CA 95814

> Re: Your Request for Advice Our File No. I-89-572

Dear Ms. Milman:

You have requested confirmation of oral advice provided to you regarding the Political Reform Act (the "Act".) 1/ A copy of your incoming letter is attached.

This letter confirms that, in the circumstances you have described, funds received in connection with an interim hearing of the Assembly Education Committee will be considered a gift of funds to the Assembly Rules Committee, and will not be considered either a gift or a contribution to any member of the Assembly, if the funds are received in the manner described in <u>In re Stone</u> 3 FPPC Ops. 52 (copy enclosed).

You have indicated that the Committee hearing has been formally approved by the Assembly Rules Committee. One of the <u>Stone</u> criteria requires that the making and use of the gift be formalized in a resolution embodying the standards set forth in the other criteria. It is not clear from your statement whether this criteria has been met. If not, the Rules Committee should adopt such a resolution.

Government Code Sections 81000-91015. All statutory references are to the Government Code unless otherwise indicated. Commission regulations appear at 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18000, et seq. All references to regulations are to Title 2, Division 6 of the California Code of Regulations.

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If you have any further questions, please contact me at (916) 322-5901.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Donovan General Counsel

By: John G. McLean

Counsel, Legal Division

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KED/JGM/aa

Enclosures

REPLY TO:

SACRAMENTO ADDRESS STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001 (916) 445-7380

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545 J STREET, SUITE 14 LOS BANOS, CA 93635 (209) 826-6100

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October 3, 1989

Katherine Donovan, General Counsel Fair Political Practices Commission 428 "J" Street, Suite 800 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms Donovan:

I am writing to confirm telephone advice you gave me on September 26, 1989. You advised me that the Assembly Rules Committee may accept gifts from private parties to help pay for expenses incurred in an interim committee hearing held in San In this instance, the funds will be used to pay a public television station that is providing interactive television coverage to the Assembly Education Committee and to agencies from other states with experience or an interest in the subject matter of the hearing. The funds will be given directly to the Assembly Rules Committee, which will contract with the television provider. None of the funds will be used for the personal benefit (such as travel) of any legislator.

The Committee hearing has been formally approved by a vote of the Assembly Rules Committee, which has authority under the Assembly Rules to provide the funds for the hearing.

You have advised me that, under these circumstances, the gift to the Assembly Rules Committee will not constitute either a qift or a contribution to any member of the Assembly.

I would appreciate confirmation of this advice as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Melman BARBARA MILMAN Staff Counsel